

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed on August 21, 2006. Claims 1-40 are currently pending in the application, with claims 1, 9, 15, 24, 31, 38 and 39 being in independent form. By the present Amendment, claims 1-2, 4-10, 14-19, 23-25, 27-32 and 34-40 have been amended. Support for the amendments are found at least in paragraphs 1-2, 7-8, 32-36 and 39 and Figures 3, 4A, 5A and 6 of the specification. It is respectfully submitted that the claims pending in the application, namely claims 1-40 are fully supported by the specification, introduce no new subject matter, and are patentable over the prior art.

The disclosed and claimed invention is directed to querying a relational database using SQL and presenting the results in accordance with a text query in a specified graphical format as opposed to only returning data from the relational database.

Rejection of Claims 1-40 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Isabel F. Cruz, User-Defined Visual Query Languages (hereinafter "Cruz").

Independent claim 1 has been amended in a manner believed to overcome the rejection. In particular, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation of a "text query". Independent claims 9, 15, 24, 31 and 39 have been amended to include the limitation of a "relational database" and a "text query". Independent claim 38 has been amended to include the limitation of a "relational database". Support for these amendments is found at least in paragraphs 1-2, 7-8, 32-36 and 39 and Figures 3, 4A, 5A and 6 of the specification. It is respectfully submitted that the recitations of amended claims 1, 9, 15, 24, 31, 38 and 39 are patentable over Cruz.

Cruz is directed to a visual query to retrieve data from an object-oriented database versus a relational database. Cruz fails to disclose or suggest the recited “text query” of a “relational database”. Cruz proposes a meta-language to query an object oriented database with user-defined pictures (page 1, left column, lines 5-6) and not a text query of a relational database. The visual query requests data from the object-oriented database using pictures. It is not possible to query a relational database using a visual query. Additionally, Cruz does not disclose or suggest SQL or returning a binary image or ASCII display of an image.

Accordingly, claims 1, 9, 15, 24, 31, 38 and 39 are believed to be patentable over Cruz. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection with respect to these claims is respectfully requested and allowance of this claim is earnestly solicited.

Claims 2-8, 10-14, 16-23, 25-30, 32-37 and 40 depend directly or indirectly from independent claims 1, 9, 15, 24, 31, 38 and 39 and are therefore patentable for at least the reasons given hereinabove.

Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of these claims be withdrawn and allowance of these claims is earnestly solicited.

Li et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,608,899) is not felt to come within the coverage of the claims now in this case.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims now pending in this application, namely Claims 1-40 are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone or personal interview may facilitate

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resolution of any remaining matters, he is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

No fee is believed to be due for the submission of this amendment. If any fees are required, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 09-0458.

Respectfully Submitted,



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